

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 FEA-02

AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03 COME-00 DODE-00

FPC-01 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01

PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00

FRB-03 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 OPIC-12 DRC-01 /242 W

----- 094980

R 201709Z SEPT 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5973

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, VE

SUBJECT: CURRENT AND 1974 VENEZUELAN OIL PRODUCTION LEVEL

REF: CARACAS 8130

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BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. ACTING MINES AND HYDROCARBONS MINISTER FERNANDO BAEZ ANNOUNCED TO PRESS IN STATEMENT CARRIED CARACAS NEWSPAPERS SEPT 19 THAT VENEZUELA HAS COMPLETED LATEST REDUCTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTION OF MORE THAN 100,000 B/D. HE SAID THIS COMPLETES TOTAL REDUCTION OF 450,000 B/D SINCE BEGINNING OF 1974. BAEZ SAID HE DOES NOT EXPECT FURTHER REDUCTION FOR NEXT FEW MONTHS, AND THERE IS POSSIBILITY OF A SMALL INCREASE TO MEET WINTER MARKETS NEEDS OF CUSTOMERS.

2. ACTING MINISTER STATED THAT ALTHOUGH NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE AT SEPTEMBER 12 OPEC MEETING, SEVERAL OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES AGREED TO VOLUNTARILY REDUCE THEIR PRODUCTION FOR CONSERVATION AND PRICE DEFENSE REASONS. OTHER COUNTRIES HAD GIVEN ASSURANCE THAT THEY TOO WILL REDUCE PRODUCTION IF WORLD EXCESS CONTINUES. VENEZUELA EXPECTS TO GET BACK UP TO PRODUCTION LEVEL OF APPROXIMATELY 3 MILLION B/D BY END OF YEAR. BAEZ STATED THAT CURRENT PRODUCTION IS LESS THAN 2.9 MILLION B/D.

3. LATEST MINISTRY WEEKLY LETTER GIVES AVERAGE 1974 PRODUCTION TO SEPTEMBER 4, 1974 AT 3,053,446 B/D. THIS IS DROP OF 9.15 PERCENT OR 307,690 B/D, FROM SAME 1973 PERIOD. AVERAGE PRODUCTION FOR JULY 1974 WAS 2,928,742 B/D, AND PROVISIONAL AVERAGE FOR AUGUST 1974 WAS 2,859,107 B/D.  
END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CLASSIFIED

4. PETATT SAW UNPUBLISHED DATA IN MINISTRY FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 11, 1974, GIVING DAILY PRODUCTION LEVEL OF 2,796,000 B/D, OR A DROP OF 5.7 PERCENT FROM PREVIOUS WEEK. APPARENTLY ENTIRE ANNOUNCED REDUCTION WAS EFFECTED IN THIS LATTER PERIOD.

5. ACCORDING TO INDUSTRY SOURCE, PRODUCTION LEVEL IS STILL BELOW 2.8 MILLION B/D. ONE OIL COMPANY WAS INFORMED TODAY SEPTEMBER 19 BY MINISTRY FIELD OFFICES IN BARCELONA AND MARACAIBO THAT EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1 MINISTRY WILL PERMIT FLARING OF ONLY TWO PERCENT OF PRODUCED GAS. SOURCE DOES NOT KNOW IF RULE WILL BE APPLIED INDUSTRYWIDE OR BY SELECTED FIELDS. IF INDUSTRYWIDE, SOURCE SPECULATES THAT FURTHER REDUCTION WILL OCCUR IN VENEZUELAN OIL PRODUCTION. END CLASSIFIED.

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, PRESS COMMENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 21 MAR 2002  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Subject:** CURRENT AND 1974 VENEZUELAN OIL PRODUCTION LEVEL  
**TAGS:** ENRG, VE, (BAEZ, FERNANDO)  
**To:** STATE INFO ABU DHABI  
ALGIERS  
BRUSSELS  
MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005